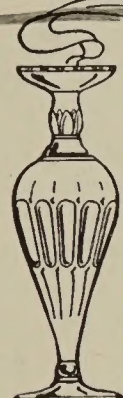


PAGE
150

State Universities



THEIR RELIGIOUS NEEDS
AS INTERPRETED BY
THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.



The Presbyterian Board of Education Philadelphia
JOSEPH WILSON COCHRAN D.D. SECRETARY



SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND students in State institutions of higher education! President Angell said that when the students of Michigan were crowded into University Hall, and he looked into their faces rising tier on tier, he could think of nothing but so many thousand locomotives, with steam up, ready to start. Let us carry out the figure. Sixty-five thousand locomotives, with steam up, ready to start—but upon what track, and with what hand upon the throttle?

The real danger to religion in the State universities, as in all universities where there



ARMORY AND GYMNASIUM, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

is an intense intellectual life, lies in a tendency to atrophy of the spiritual nature. Minds become so absorbed in the details of a particular field of knowledge, or of other interests of college life, that the things of the spirit are lost sight of.

Why have the denominations not heeded the call? Because, for the most part, they have been short-sighted, and have found it difficult to take a broad and unprejudiced view of the situation. It is time to brush the scales from

blinded eyes and to face the naked truth. The best blood and brain of a score of commonwealths, the great majority of those students whose ability and equipment will fit them to do the largest work, are gathered in the State universities. Let the churches go on as with rare exceptions they have gone in the past, let them continue to pass by on the other side, giving no care to their sons and daughters in these strategic centers, and who shall suffer loss? Society in general, but first of all the churches themselves.

Our Work for 1909-1910



THE report of the United States Commissioner of Education for 1909 gives 65,779 students in public universities, colleges and technological schools, and 44,002 in mechanical and agricultural schools which are not part of State universities. This makes a grand total of 109,781 students in higher institutions controlled by the States. *Careful estimates make one in seven university students a Presbyterian. Accepting this as a guide, we are justified in estimating that there are upwards of 15,700 Presbyterian students in the State-controlled educational institutions above high school grade in this country.*

With all the work done for these thousands of students by the Christian Associations, in prayer services, volunteer bands, Bible and Mission Study Classes, and personal evangelism, there

is something beyond this due to students of our State institutions, in behalf of their highest religious welfare. A recent writer has noted two great lacks in the religious environment of the university student:—

“There has been available to him no such mature experience and expert counsel on religion as is always open to him on intellectual subjects from his professors.

“There have been few ties, or none, to hold him during his university course in line with the organized church.

“In a word the university student has been practically unpastored and unchurched. That the Christian Association has not met these lacks is no blame to it. It simply has not been organized in a character to fulfill these functions; it has been doing a different thing. It entered the universities, not to father or mother the students, but to brother them.”

The Board is giving financial assistance to eight synods in the development of this work: Illinois, Michigan, Kansas, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado and Arkansas, the four latter having applied for aid during the year just closing. Not only have twenty-five State universities been visited by the Secretaries during the year, but repeated visits have been made to certain university centres where the progress of the work required especial attention.



THE REV. RICHARD C. HUGHES, A.M., D.D.
Secretary of the Board of Education for University Work.

During the past year the conviction was pressed home upon the Board that the time had arrived for the creation of a Department of University Work. Accordingly, the Rev. Dr. Richard C. Hughes, of Madison, Wis., was secured, to labor under the title of “Secretary for University Work.” His special duty is to coöperate with synods in the raising of funds, endowment and otherwise, for the securing of adequate religious privileges for Presbyterian students at State universities.

The University of Illinois



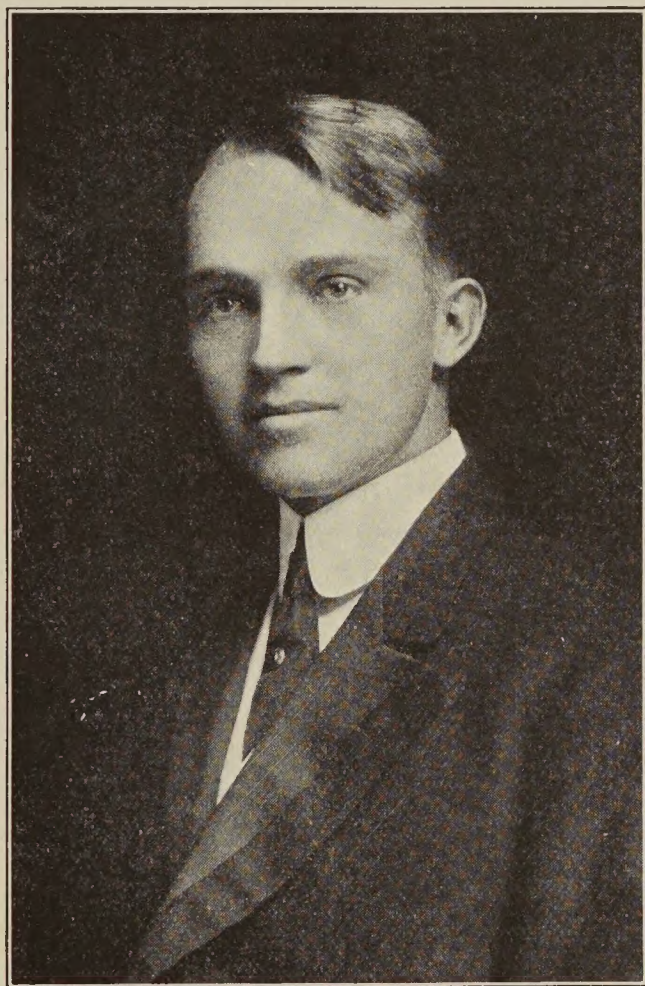
THE University of Illinois has grown in forty years from an attendance of fifty to nearly five thousand students. It includes thirteen colleges and schools. The State appropriates about one million dollars a year for current expenses and large sums for new buildings. The reason for the University Presbyterian Church is, that the two churches of Champaign and Urbana are removed from the university centre three-quarters of a mile, and a mile and a half respectively. A church is greatly needed, and the facilities that go with it, not only for religious services, but for classes in Bible Study, Christian Doctrine, History and Ethics.

In April, 1909, the Rev. Martin E. Anderson, a graduate of the University of Chicago and of McCormick Theological Seminary, accepted the university pastorate. His first year's

work has been conspicuously successful. He has taught the fifty-five leaders of the Student Bible Classes of the Y. M. C. A., and has thus reached indirectly 500 students engaged in Bible study. He has also had a part in the organization of the United Mission Study Movement of the university, and has succeeded in organizing a Presbyterian Guild, which binds together the 760 Presbyterian students.

The Presbyterian House was secured in May, 1909. It is situated two blocks west of the university, in a very desirable location. The property includes a lot 115 by 200 feet, upon which it is proposed to build a University Presbyterian Church. Synod authorized the raising of an endowment fund of sixty thousand dollars, ten thousand of which was offered by Dr. H. P. Merriman, of Santa Barbara, Cal., on condition that the remaining fifty thousand be raised by May 1, 1910. That condition has been successfully met through the heroic efforts of Synod's Committee, under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. W. S. P. Bryan, of Chicago. The Board, through its new Secretary for University Work, the Rev. Dr. Hughes, has been actively coöperating in this canvass since the middle of March.

The university pastor, in addition to his care of the Presbyterian House, has



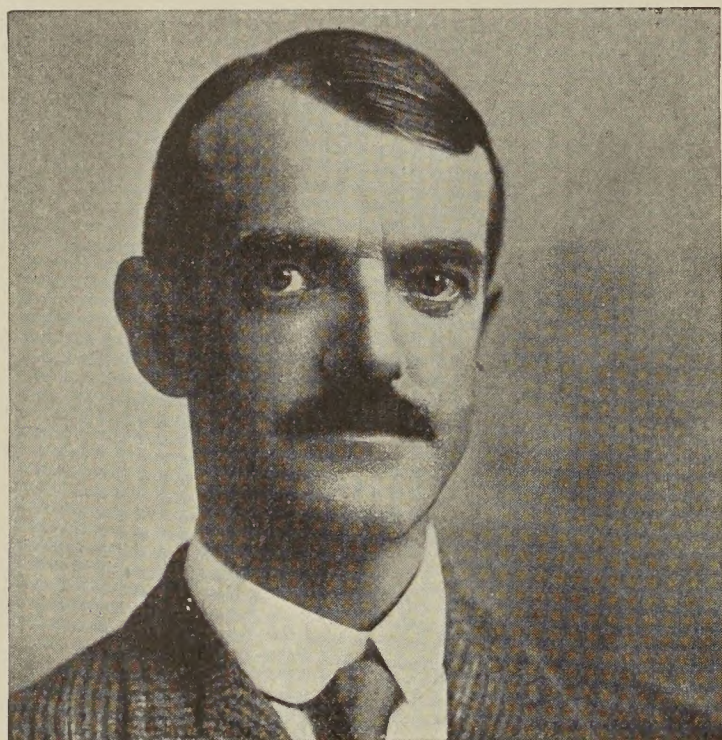
THE REV. MARTIN E. ANDERSON.

conducted Sunday services, the average student attendance being four times larger than last year. He has also spent considerable time canvassing for endowment funds, having raised over \$30,000 during the year. It is hoped that \$40,000, in addition to the endowment fund, will be raised during the coming year, for the purpose of erecting the church, and completing the equipment. The Presbyterian constituency in and about the university is so large, that an important work can be done without interfering with that of our churches in Champaign and Urbana.

The University of Wisconsin



THE Presbyterian university pastor, the Rev. M. G. Allison, carries on his work in close co-operation with Christ Presbyterian Church, Madison. During the current year he has conducted three student Bible classes, and reached about a thousand students personally in their homes, boarding-houses and dormitories. His direct and successful aim is not only to get students to attend the church and its services, but to secure their connection with it through some form of membership, either on confession of faith, by letter, or affiliate membership.



THE REV. MATTHEW G. ALLISON.

Four hundred and eighty-three students out of the 4,521 are Presbyterians. Two hundred and sixty-one of these are church members, and 222 adherents. It is estimated that four-fifths of the entire number attend divine service with more or less regularity. There are about fifty student members in the Christian Endeavor Society. During the year fourteen students have united on confession of faith, forty-nine by affiliate membership and eight by church letter. Thirteen actual or probable Presbyterian candidates for the ministry have been reached, as the result of the efforts of the university pastor. They are said to be all strong men, the university pastor making it a point to urge this calling only on men of high calibre. The results achieved by this purely personal work, without institutional equipment of any kind, are remarkable and encouraging.

The University Pastors' Association is composed of the five resident university pastors and the secretaries of the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A.'s. This association takes a church census of students yearly, conducts series of general religious meetings, supports the Students' Ministerial Club, sends out libraries of religious books to pastors and provides speakers on religious subjects throughout the State.

Mr. Allison says with reference to his own work, "It is the most interesting I have ever done in my ministry. Many of the students hardly seem to know the existence of the Church. It is a veritable foreign mission field, and one in which the material one works on is alive at every point. It is the most original and refreshing field for work and the most promising for results in this country. It is one that only the Church can reach effectively. One needs a great established and respected authority behind him to make an impression. No minor agency can command student attention and respect."

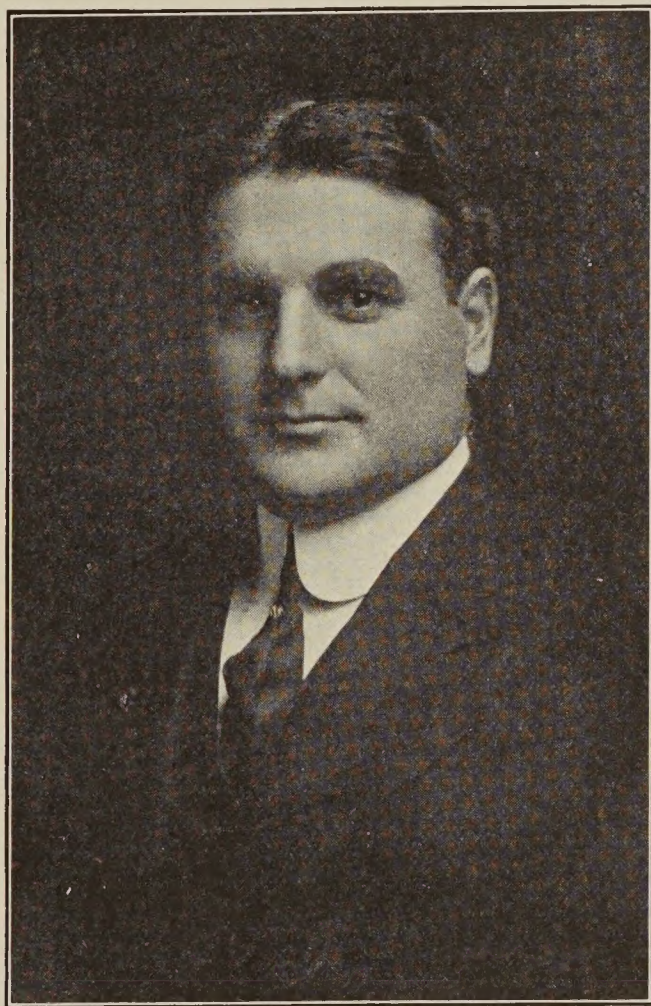
The Rev. Geo. E. Hunt, pastor of Christ Church, says: "Never in the history of our Church have the students turned out as now. And never have so many applied for membership, or taken hold on the Church life as now. Four budding young engineers have abandoned their plans to build bridges, and will begin building the Kingdom, as ministers."

The University of Michigan



HE work at the University of Michigan is conducted under the Tappan Presbyterian Association, the Rev. J. Leslie French, Ph.D., being the student pastor. The Ann Arbor Presbyterian Church is the centre of the spiritual life. The newly acquired girls' dormitory, with Sackett and MacMillan Halls, are the centres of social and educational effort.

There are 900 students of Presbyterian affiliation at Ann Arbor, the local church enrolling 128 students in its Bible classes and 266 students in its Young People's Society. Here we have



THE REV. J. LESLIE FRENCH, PH.D.

a training school of remarkable vigor and efficiency. The students are expected to become fellowship members of the church, and to join in the work of reaching the inmates of hospitals, jails, poor-houses, and other institutions, and that of preaching and teaching in country churches and school houses. The very active student pastor aims to be a real pastor as well as a teacher. His duties are to get into personal contact with all Presbyterian students, introduce freshmen to the right kind of upper class men, encourage and counsel students in difficult problems, offer courses in Biblical and cognate studies, develop interest in the right choice of a life calling, especially that of the ministry; in short, to provide, as far as possible, a substitute for home life and parental care.

The total number of students at the University of Michigan 1909-10 was 5,225. The attendance of the student body at church is estimated at 30 per cent. and the attendance of Presbyterian students at 35 per cent. There are five Presbyterian candidates for the ministry, besides eight student volunteers. The total number in the Volunteer Band is 38.

Among Dr. French's methods of work are the following: locating of freshmen in Presbyterian families, securing employ-

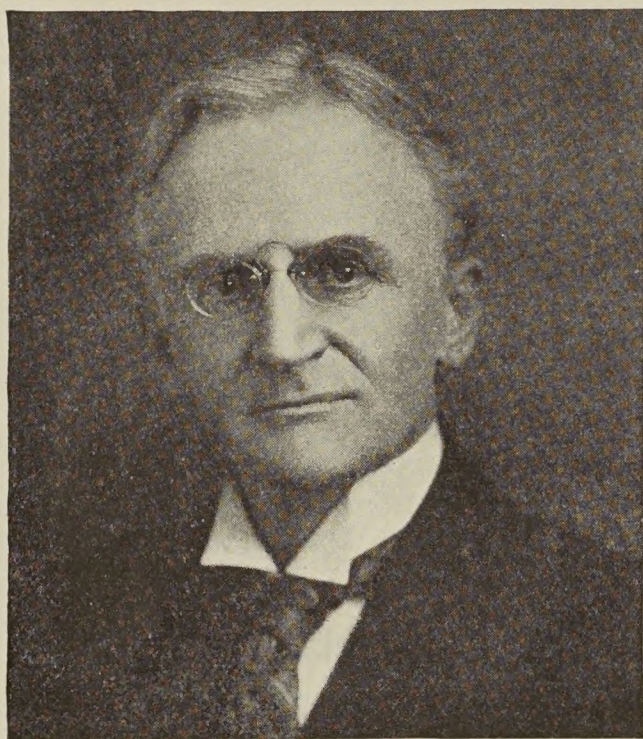
ment for needy students, taking of religious census, receptions to Faculty and students, social gatherings at pastor's home, visitation of students, Bible Class and Mission Study teaching, conduct of Tappan Lecture Course, correspondence with pastors of the State, teaching in the university, raising of money for endowment and current expenses, housing of sixteen women in dormitory, and conduct of an Evangelistic Band.

The value of all the guild properties in Ann Arbor is \$143,000, and total endowments of \$133,000. There is an average attendance of 381 students in the newly organized University School of Religion. A Presbyterian student has lately volunteered for foreign missions. He will support himself, and give \$10,000 for the support of two other students who are to go with him.

The University of Kansas



URING the year 1909-10 the University of Kansas enrolled 1,433 men and 870 women. Of these 1,163 were church members and 418 adherents. Of the 369 Presbyterian students, 266 are members of the church. The Rev. Francis A. Wilber, D.D., Mrs. Wilber and her sister, Miss Pauline Sage, administer the work of Westminster Hall, which is conducted along five general lines—pastoral oversight, instruction in the English Bible and allied branches, social entertainment, presentation of the work to churches and individuals, and instruction at summer conferences and conventions.



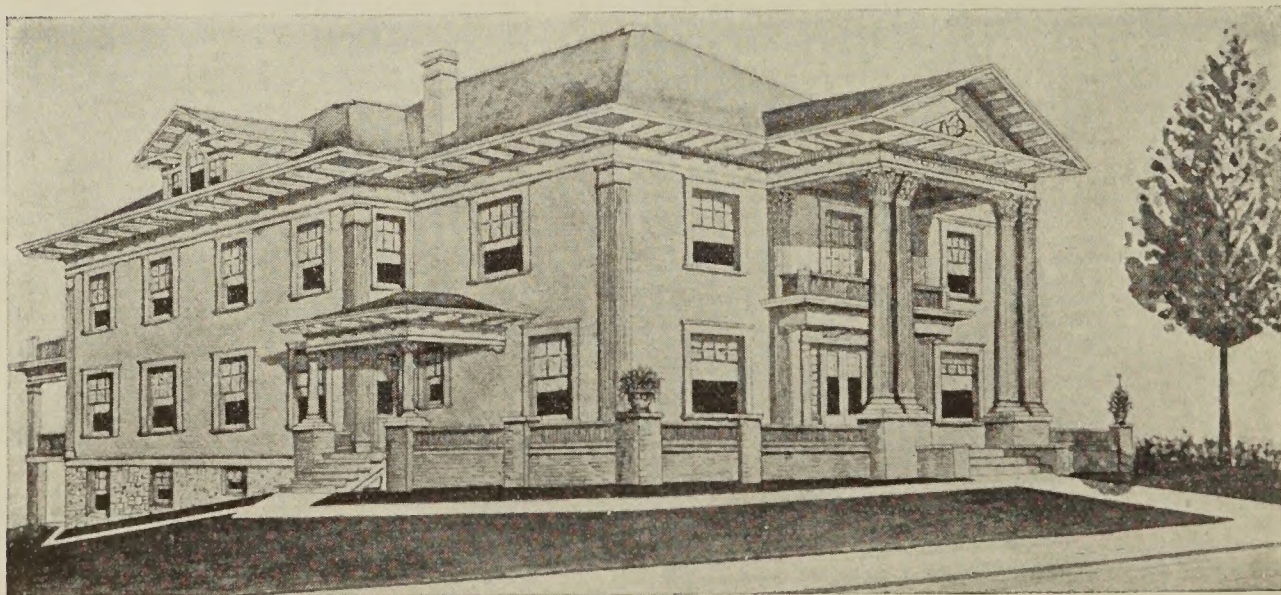
THE REV. FRANCIS A. WILBER, D.D.

These workers conduct twelve Bible classes with a total enrollment of 218, 57 per cent. being Presbyterians. Students are entertained at Westminster Hall in groups of twenty-five or more. During the past year 88 men and 164 women have received special social attention. Four hundred and fifty recorded calls have been made. It is thought, however, that frequent calling is not necessary where students meet weekly in classes. Invitations to the hall are generally found more fruitful.

The new Westminster Hall, the gift of Mr. W. W. Cockins now under construction at a cost of \$15,000, occupies a site of exceptional beauty, and will be a model structure. It was given on condition that a \$30,000 endowment fund should be raised by October 1, 1909, which was successfully accomplished.

This is, however, only one-half of the total fund to be eventually raised.

President Strong says, "The work being done there is excellent, and is helping materially to solve the very difficult problem of the religious life of a State university."



WESTMINSTER HALL, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS.

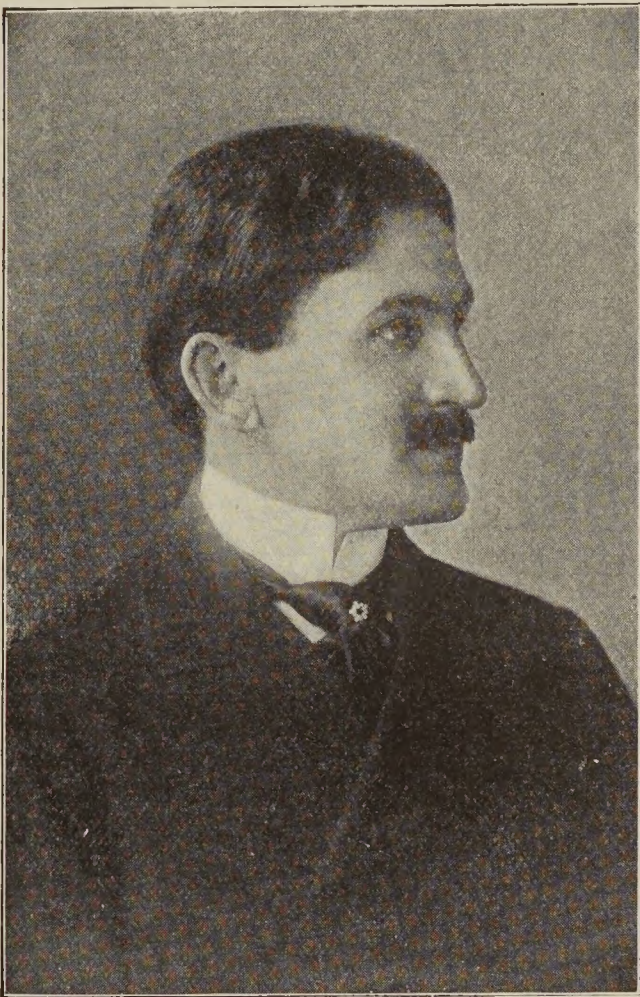
The University of Nebraska



THE Rev. Dean R. Leland was installed as university pastor at the University of Nebraska in the fall of 1909, the First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln becoming responsible for his appointment, and the Board agreeing to contribute one-fourth of his salary. He is the first university pastor at Lincoln, and his coming has attracted the attention of other denominations. Through his efforts, a systematic plan of Bible study on university standards, has been arranged, in which pastors of the local churches are to become instructors, on the plan of the religious courses offered at Michigan and Iowa.

Of the 4,000 students enrolled, there are 650 Presbyterians, three-fourths of whom are members of the church. Mr. Leland has

conducted four University Bible Classes during the year, and has taught two groups on "The Leading Ideas of the Gospels." He has organized a young men's guild of university students in the First Presbyterian Church, with a membership of thirty, meeting after the morning service. A University Bible Class of young women has also been organized, taught by a university professor, averaging about twenty in attendance.



THE REV. DEAN R. LELAND.

The University of Colorado



THE First Presbyterian Church of Boulder, the Synod of Colorado, and the Board of Education united last fall in guaranteeing the support of a student pastor at Boulder. The Rev. J. Wilson Currens, M.A., who this year completes his work for the degree of Ph.D., was secured. Since entering upon his work, he has been appointed assistant in the Department of Comparative Literature, which adds academic standing, and consequent prestige, to the position of Presbyterian Student Pastor.

About 400 Presbyterian students, out of a total attendance of 1,150, are the objects of the church's oversight, 225 of them being members of the church. At least three-fourths of the Presbyterian students attend church regularly.

Since the coming of Mr. and Mrs. Currens, over forty university students have decided to dedicate their lives to some special form of Christian service. Among them are two Presbyterian young women and one young man who have definitely offered their lives for work in foreign lands. Two Westminster Guilds, composed of university women, have been organized during the year by Mrs. Currens, who spends a large part of her time in the work.

Synodical Soil in Preparation



ARKANSAS.—The first young woman to take up this special form of work is Miss Lyta A. Davis, a native of Fayetteville, the seat of the University of Arkansas. Miss Davis has had two years' experience as secretary of the University Y. W. C. A. The Presbyterian Church has secured the co-operation of the Board, which is paying half the salary.

Two University Sabbath-school Classes have been organized, and services of special interest to students held, in nearly all the departments of the church. The Christian Endeavor Society arranged a series

of life-work addresses which made this organization very popular among the students. Of the 900 students in the university about 35 per cent. are Presbyterians, and of these 80 per cent. attend church regularly. Eighteen students have united with the church during the past year. Two young men are looking forward to the ministry.

OHIO.—The Synod of Ohio is ready to install a university pastor at the Ohio State University at Columbus whenever funds are available. It is expected that the special committee appointed at the last meeting of Synod will, with the Board's help, soon be able to finance the work, and have a man on the field by the opening of the next school year.

WEST VIRGINIA.—The Synod of West Virginia passed a resolution last October providing for the raising of a \$75,000 endowment for the work at Morgantown. The Rev. Dr. A. M. Buchanan, one of the pioneers in university work, is very hopeful of securing this amount in the not far distant future.

OKLAHOMA.—A Presbyterian boys' dormitory is thought to be a partial solution of the problem at the University

of Oklahoma, the president of which, the Rev. A. Grant Evans, is very earnest in his efforts to secure such a building.

CALIFORNIA.—The Committee on Education of the Synod of California, after careful study, secured action recommending the appointment of student pastors for Stanford University and the University of California, and the raising of endowments to maintain the work. The treasurer is the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church.

Special efforts have been made to meet the situations in the Synods of Oregon, North Dakota, Missouri and Indiana, but the financial problem in each instance, even with the Board's aid, is still awaiting solution.

Two thousand Presbyterian students alone graduate each year from State universities. Shall they leave university halls with deadened religious sensibilities, or with a vital, evangelical faith that shall make them leaders in the work of winning the world to Christ?